

December 2006

# Soldiers



## 2007 *Planning Calendar*

- > Technology Keeps Families in Touch
- > Army Milestones
- > Leaders Stay Engaged
- > DIMHRS
- > Message From Army Leadership



**CALL TO DUTY**  
BOOTS ON THE GROUND



# January



"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance."  
— Thomas Jefferson

## This Month. . .

*Cold-Hazard  
Awareness Month*

**Jan. 6**  
Army All-American Bowl  
San Antonio, Texas

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 Army All-American Bowl Game
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16	17	18	19	20 Muharramn/ New Year
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF

### December 2006

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### February 2007

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**This Month's Safety Tip:** Take care while using vehicle chains during cold weather. Know how to use them properly and remain aware of surrounding conditions while putting them on your vehicle.



# February



*"My focus is on the basics. I have an obligation to you and to anyone sharing the same uniform."*  
— SP4 (now LTC) Gordon Roberts, Medal of Honor, Vietnam

## This Month...

Black History Month

National Passenger  
Safety Week

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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12 Lincoln's Birthday

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14 Valentine's Day

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19 President's Day

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22 Washington's  
Birthday

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### January 2007

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SPC Chris Gardner

**This Month's Safety Tip:** Use your visors and protective eyewear when operating equipment — whether it is around an aircraft, on a motorcycle or operating a lawn mower. Protect your sight!



# February



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SPC Chris Gardner

**This Month's Safety Tip:** Use your visors and protective eyewear when operating equipment — whether it is around an aircraft, on a motorcycle or operating a lawn mower. Protect your sight!



# April



*"Your training kicks in and the Soldier kicks in. It's your life or theirs. You've got a job to do: protecting yourself and your fellow comrades."*

— SGT Leigh Ann Hester, Silver Star, Iraq

## This Month...

Month of the Military Child

Best Ranger Competition Begins

**Apr. 30**  
SAFE Kids Worldwide Begins



David Dismukes

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
1 Palm Sunday	2	3 Passover	4	5	6 Good Friday	7																																																																																				
8 Easter Sunday	9	10	11	12	13	14																																																																																				
15 Holocaust Remembrance Day	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																																				
22 Earth Day	23	24	25 Army Reserve Birthday 1908	26	27	28																																																																																				
29	30	<div> <b>March 2007</b> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <b>May 2007</b> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>					S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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**This Month's Safety Tip:** We lose three times the Soldiers to privately owned vehicles as we do to Army motor vehicles — safe driving and seat belt requirements don't end with the duty day.



Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF

# May



*"In war, there is no substitute for victory."  
— GEN Douglas MacArthur, Medal of Honor, World War II*

## This Month...

Asian Pacific American  
Heritage Month

Army Soldier Show Summer  
Concert Tour Begins

SAFE Kids Worldwide  
Continues Through May 7

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
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6	7	8 Victory in Europe Day 1945	9	10	11	12 Military Spouse Appreciation Day																																																																																				
13 Mother's Day	14	15	16	17	18	19 Armed Forces Day																																																																																				
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27	28 Memorial Day	29	30	31	<div> <div>April 2007</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>June 2007</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1 2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1 2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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Tim Hipps

**This Month's Safety Tip:** In 2005, 70 percent of all fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those, approximately 426 lives could have been saved by wearing lifejackets.



# June



*"It's really about your buddy to your left and right. As long as you take care of your buddy, the mission will be accomplished and we'll all go home."*

— SSG Christopher Choay, Silver Star, Afghanistan

## This Month...

Drill Sergeant  
of the Year Competition

Heat Stress Awareness

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

May 2007

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July 2007

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Battle of Midway  
1942

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D-Day  
1944

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Army's Birthday  
Flag Day

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17 Father's Day

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Summer Begins

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GI Bill  
signed 1946

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SSG Jason W. Edwards

**This Month's Safety Tip:** More Army Aviators are lost to easily preventable accidents than to enemy fire. If you are deploying, take your safety program with you.



# July



"There are equal acts out there. This one just got written up.  
I would like to see more people get written up."  
— COL James H. Coffman Jr., Distinguished Service Cross, Iraq

## This Month. . .

National Diversity Month

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7																																																																																				
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SSG Michael J. Carden

**This Month's Safety Tip:** In 2004, about 9,600 people were treated in hospital emergency rooms for injuries associated with fireworks. Fireworks should be used only with extreme caution.



# August



*"I just loaded my weapon and kept on firing as I was staying around my brothers to protect them."*  
— SGT Benny Alicea, Silver Star, Iraq

## This Month...

Eye Injury Prevention Month

AMVETS National Convention

VFW National Convention

American Legion National Convention

### SUNDAY

#### July 2007

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### MONDAY

#### September 2007

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### TUESDAY

### WEDNESDAY

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### SATURDAY

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26 Women's Equality Day

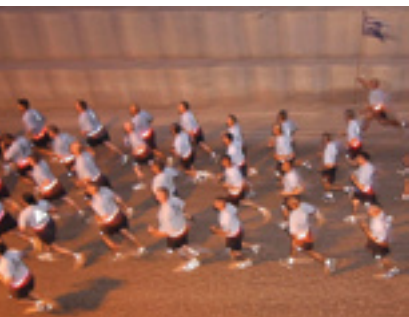
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PH2 Roger S. Duncan, USN

**This Month's Safety Tip:** During 2004, 16,694 people in the U.S. died in alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, representing 39 percent of all traffic-related deaths.



# September



*"I knew I had the entire convoy behind me and I knew they were following me. They needed me to get them out of there."*  
— SPC Jeremy Church, Silver Star, Iraq

## This Month...

Hispanic  
Heritage Month

National Preparedness  
Month

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

August 2007

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October 2007

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3 Labor Day

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9 Grandparent's Day

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11 Patriot Day

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13 Ramadan Begins  
Rosh Hashana

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17 POW/MIA Day

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22 Yom Kippur

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Pat Young

**This Month's Safety Tip:** Risk of a fatality in a Humvee accident is six times greater for Soldiers not wearing seat belts. Buckle-up, slow down and be aware of surrounding environmental

www.army.mil



Tech. Sgt. Jerrymy Lock, USAF

# October



*"If I had a split second to think, I probably would have broken contact, but I instinctively stayed and fought."*  
— SFC Gary Villalobos, Silver Star, Iraq

## This Month...

Oct 1-5  
NCO of the Year  
Competition

Oct. 8-10  
Association of the United  
States Army Meeting

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Operation Enduring Freedom Begins 2001
7 Army 10-Mile Run	8 Columbus Day	9	10	11	12	13 Eid al Fitr
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30	31 Halloween			



COL Randy Pullen

### September 2007

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### November 2007

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**This Month's Safety Tip:** Pedestrian fatalities involving children are about 4.5 times greater on Halloween night. Make sure your "goblins" are visible with reflective gear, and watch for traffic.



Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF

# November



*"The biggest thing for us that day was that the Soldiers we were fighting for made it home alive."*

*— 1LT Michael Hultquist, Distinguished Flying Cross, Iraq*

## This Month. . .

Native American  
Heritage Month

Army Family Action Plan  
Conference

### SUNDAY

October 2007

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### MONDAY

December 2006

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### TUESDAY

### WEDNESDAY

### THURSDAY

### FRIDAY

### SATURDAY

4 Daylight Savings  
Time Ends

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6 Election Day

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11 Veterans Day

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22 Thanksgiving Day

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Senior Airman Desiree N. Palacios, USAF

**This Month's Safety Tip:** Sports and physical injuries are among the top five injury-producing activities in the Army. A short stretch goes a long way to prevention.



# December



"We would not have made our objective and saved the injured men without the entire force fighting together."  
— SPC Casey M. Loose, Bronze Star for Valor, Iraq

## This Month...

Army-Navy Game  
Dec. 1

### SUNDAY

#### November 2007

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### MONDAY

#### January 2008

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### TUESDAY

### WEDNESDAY

### THURSDAY

### FRIDAY

### SATURDAY

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5 First Day of Hanukkah

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7 Pearl Harbor Day 1941

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13 Army National Guard Birthday

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20 Eid al-Adha

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22 Winter Begins

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25 Christmas Day

26 Kwanzaa Begins

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29



Tech. Sgt. Brian E. Christiansen, USAF

**This Month's Safety Tip:** Each year fires occurring during the holiday season injure 2,600 people and cause more than \$930 million in damage. Check your smoke detectors and make sure your home is safe this holiday season.



# LEADERS

## STAY ENGAGED

Accountable leaders, engaged at all echelons, immediately save lives and promote change in our Army's culture, instinct and intuition for our future.

## ARE YOU ENGAGED?



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2007

## June 2007

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2008

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# Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System



Integrated  
Personnel & Pay



All Components  
in One Database



Self-Service



# COMING IN 2008

[www.armydimhrs.army.mil](http://www.armydimhrs.army.mil)

DIMHRS is a congressionally mandated program spearheaded by the Department of Defense, and will result in the Army significantly transforming the way it delivers military personnel and pay. DIMHRS will provide Soldiers significant self-service capabilities, integrate all our components on one database, and significantly reduce workload for commanders and Soldiers.

Supporting the Soldier is at the core of the Army's mission, and DIMHRS will provide the Army with a much-needed integrated personnel and pay system to ensure timely and accurate compensation, benefits and entitlements for the more than 1.3 million Active, Reserve and National Guard service members.

DIMHRS addresses current major deficiencies in the delivery of military personnel and pay services, reduces stove-piped legacy systems, creates a more streamlined system in support of the military mission and personnel transformation goals, and provides better integrated HR services to Soldiers and their families.

Soldiers can stay informed on the progress of this historic personnel and pay transformation by simply logging onto the Army DIMHRS Web site at [www.armydimhrs.army.mil](http://www.armydimhrs.army.mil).



**CALL TO DUTY**  
**BOOTS ON THE GROUND**

# ARMY MILESTONES

ON **June 14, 1775**, the Second Continental Congress voted to establish an Army of 10 infantry companies. Since that humble beginning in defense of the nation, the Army has also contributed to medicine, exploration, engineering and science. Beginning with 1777 and looking at the five- and 10-year milestones leading to the present day, this chronology offers a small glimpse of that proud story of selfless service. It is also your story.

## 1700s

**1777** – The Continental Army defeats the British at Princeton, N.J., **Jan. 3**.

**1782** – On **July 20** the Continental Congress adopts the Great Seal of the United States. The eagle with arrows and olive branch eventually becomes part of Army insignia.



## 1800s

**1802** – Congress establishes the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., **Mar. 16**.

**1812** – Birthday of the Ordnance Corps, **May 14**.

**1862** – At Manassas, Va., **Aug. 29-30**, the Army suffers a major defeat at the second battle near Bull Run.



**1862** – At Sharpsburg, Md., **Sept. 17**, the Union and Confederate armies engage at Antietam Creek. The Confederates withdraw unpursued.

**1862** – At Fredericksburg, Va., **Dec. 13**, in a frontal assault against Confederate positions, the Union Army suffers another major defeat.

**1862** – The Medal of Honor is established by Congress, **July 12**.

**1867** – At Sitka, MAJ Charles O. Wood of the 9th Infantry Regiment receives the official transfer of the Alaska Territory from Russia to the United States on **Oct. 29**.

**1877** – West Point, N.Y., **June 14**: LT Henry O. Flipper is the first black American to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy.



**1917** – The United States enters World War I on **April 6**. GEN John J. Pershing becomes commander in chief of the American Expeditionary Force on **May 26**.

**1922** – The Army Band, "Pershing's Own," is established, **Jan. 25**.

**1932** – In Shanghai, China, in **February**, Soldiers of the 31st Inf. Regt. help restore order in the American sector of the city.

**1932** – On **Feb. 22** the Purple Heart is established as a medal to recognize Soldiers wounded in combat.



**1942** – The Army awards a contract to build the first military helicopter, **Jan. 14**.

**1942** – With food and ammunition gone, the American and Filipino defenders of Bataan, in the Philippines, surrender to the Japanese on **April 9**. Soldiers begin the Bataan Death March to prisoner-of-war camps. The remaining U.S. forces in the Philippines surrender on **May 6**.

**1942** – The Women's Army Auxiliary Corps becomes the Women's Army Corps on **May 14**.

**1962** – **Mar. 15** marks the official start of American participation in the Vietnam War, which will continue until 1973.

**1962** – Military Intelligence Corps birthday, **July 1**.

**1972** – On **Aug. 23** the last combat units withdraw from Vietnam, ending the United States' combat role in the war.

**1982** – 82nd Airborne Division Soldiers deploy to the Sinai Desert in **January** as the first U.S. representatives of the Multinational Force and Observers. The MFO peacekeeping mission continues today.

**1987** – The Special Forces Branch is created, **April 9**.



## 2000s

**2002** – In **January**, with Taliban and al Qaeda forces in Afghanistan in retreat, coalition forces begin clearing minefields, rebuilding infrastructure and providing humanitarian assistance.

**1812 – June 18.** The nation — and its under-strength Army and Navy — go to war against Great Britain. In the following months, the Army suffers several losses along the Canadian border and western frontier.

**1842 –** Starting in **June**, Soldiers led by LT John Fremont and Army scout Kit Carson explore and map routes through the Rocky Mountains.

**1847 –** War with Mexico. Begun in **May 1846**, major battles of the war are fought in 1847. Important victories include an Army and Navy assault on San Gabriel, Calif., and in Mexico, the battle of Buena Vista, the amphibious assault on Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Chapultepec and, finally, Mexico City. The war ends with the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, Feb. 2, 1848.

**1862 –** A joint Army-Navy campaign in **February** opens the Tennessee River as a Union route into the South.

**1862 –** On **May 24** the Army for the first time uses a mobile wagon-mounted telegraph system for military operations.

**1862 –** On **July 12** President Abraham Lincoln approves the act of Congress to create the Medal of Honor.

**1862 –** On **Aug. 25** the War Department authorizes the establishment of units comprised of black Soldiers. More than 178,000 freemen and former slaves eventually serve.

**1887 –** The Army Hospital Corps is established on **Mar. 1**.

## 1900s

**1902 – Jan. 1.** The Army adopts an olive drab field service uniform. Army blue is retained as the Army dress uniform.

**1902 –** The United States withdraws troops from Cuba **May 20**, and Cuba becomes independent.

**1907 –** On **Mar. 4** the Army Corps of Engineers assumes control of the mission to build the Panama Canal.



**1907 –** On **July 1** the Signal Corps forms an Aeronautical Division to expand balloon activities. On **Dec. 23** the Signal Corps issues bid specifications for the Army's first airplane.

**1912 –** In **January** the Army begins first use of the new campaign hat that, with modifications, will later become the drill sergeant's hat.

**1912 –** Airplanes are used for the first time in maneuvers with ground forces, **Aug. 12**.

**1942 –** Birthday of the Army Transportation Corps, **July 31**.

**1942 –** BG Leslie Groves on **Sept. 17** takes command of the secret "Manhattan Project" to develop an atomic bomb.

**1942 –** The Army lands three amphibious task forces in North Africa, in November.

**1942 –** On **Nov. 20** Army engineers complete the 1,500-mile Alaska Military Highway, connecting Dawson Creek, Canada, to Fairbanks, Alaska.

**1947 –** The military departments are reorganized as the Department of Defense; the War Department becomes the Department of the Army, and the Air Force becomes a separate branch of service, **July 26**.

**1947 –** The Medical Service Corps is established, **Aug. 4**.

**1952 –** American and allied forces continue fighting against communist forces in Korea. Begun with the invasion by North Korea in **June 1950**, the war will continue until an armistice agreement is signed in July 1953.

**1952 –** The 10th Special Forces Group is activated at Fort Bragg, N.C., **June 10**.

**1957 –** The M-14 rifle replaces the M-1 rifle in **May**.

**1957 –** "The Army Goes Rolling Along" becomes the official U.S. Army song, **Dec. 12**.

**2002 –** In **March**, Army astronaut LTC Nancy Currie directs the repair and upgrade of the Hubble Space Telescope.



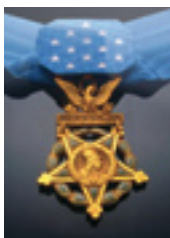
**2002 –** The first Stryker armored vehicle enters the Army inventory in **April**.

**2002 –** In **April** Soldiers deliver medical supplies and equipment to Afghan villagers following a severe earthquake that kills more than 1,000 people.



**2002 –** In **September** the new U.S. Disciplinary Barracks opens at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., replacing the oldest penal institution in the federal system.

**2002 –** Special-operations Soldiers evacuate civilians from Ivory Coast in **October**.



*For more about Army history, visit  
[www.army.mil/cmh](http://www.army.mil/cmh).*

U.S. ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY

# Technology Keeps Soldiers and Families in Touch

by Tim Hipps USACFSC Public Affairs

Cutting-edge technology is fast becoming a vital tool for the families of deployed Soldiers.

When Soldiers can't reach out and touch loved ones, the Army and military supporters provide the next best thing to being there: virtual reality.

Overseas telephone calls have been replaced by affordable cameras that transmit audio and video via the World Wide Web. A smorgasbord of Internet sites is available to help Soldiers and their families deal with deployment and the seemingly countless number of challenges it creates.

The Web site of choice for Army families — **My-ArmyLifetoo.com** — provides an abundance of useful information, including links to other Web sites dealing specifically with deployment issues.

"Talk, Listen, Connect," a bilingual, upbeat video for children, portrays how a Muppet's family and friends handled deployment. There's also a video for parents called "Talking with Military Families," which addresses the sensitivities of deployed troops' children.

A link to the videos can be found on Military OneSource at **www.militaryonesource.com**. It provides articles, booklets, checklists, recordings and tips for dealing with deployment, along with other information for military families, including a toll-free telephone referral service that's available 24/7.

While "snail mail" still delivers home news to deployed Soldiers, 21st-cen-

tury technology ensures that troops in Afghanistan and Iraq can connect via the Internet with loved ones around the world.

Pictures are worth even more than a thousand words when Soldiers are away from family and friends for months at a time. Some Soldiers create home videos before deploying so children can watch their parent reading books or singing songs to them during the separation. With a special Video Messenger Kit developed at CFSC, Soldiers can record themselves reading books such as the "The Kissing Hand," the tale of a raccoon's feelings when separated from its mother for the first time.

CFSC's Army Child and Youth Services division created 178 Youth Technology Labs for garrison school-age centers and youth centers that enhance military children's ability to communicate with their deployed parents.

Equipped with hardware, software, and print and electronic curriculums designed for children ages 6 through 18, Youth Technology Labs primarily are placed on installations most impacted by the war on terrorism.

Army Family Readiness Groups help military families support one another during deployments. Army personnel and their loved ones know best how to cope with the difficulties of Army family life. They provide communication with a rear-detachment commander, who has the most reliable information concerning deployed units.

For those without access to a local Family Readiness Group, there are Army Virtual Family Readiness Groups at **www.armyfrg.org**. The vFRG links deployed Soldiers, their families, FRG leaders, unit

commanders, the rear detachments and others on their own Web site.

Virtual FRGs are available to battalions and above, including National Guard members and Reservists.

When it comes time for rest and recuperation, Armed Forces Recreation Centers are affordable joint-service resorts in Florida, Germany, Hawaii and South Korea. Visit **www.army.mwr.com** for details.

Active-duty military, retirees, current and retired Department of Defense civilians, Reservists, delayed-entry recruits and family members are authorized users of the AFRCs.

CFSC officials are using these and other programs, in concert with evolving technology, to help Soldiers and their families better cope with frequent deployments. But, say officials, such technology is an important complement to, not a replacement for, the personal touch for which morale, welfare and recreation and family programs professionals are known throughout the Army world.



# PHOTO CONTRIBUTORS



PFC Joshua Correia, of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division, scans his sector for enemy movement near the Pakistan border in Paktika province, Afghanistan — SPC Ben Minor



Soldiers from the 3rd United States Inf. Regt. (The Old Guard), perform their precision drill movements at the Fort Eustis, Va., Super Day festival. — MC2 Justin K. Thomas, USN



Soldiers simulate breaching a house for Iraqi army soldiers during a training class at Camp Blue Diamond in Ramadi, Iraq. — Tech Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF



On leave from Iraq, SPC Brent Goolsby says hello to his son, Jonathan, for the first time during a 4th of July reunion in downtown Atlanta. — SPC Bryce S. Dubee



SGT David Enstad, Co. B, 2nd Bn. 6th Inf. Regt., pulls security at the front door of a home while his team questions an Iraqi family in the Tameem district of Ramadi, Iraq. — Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF



Drill sergeants provide security for the color guard during a graduation ceremony at Fort Jackson, S.C. — Staff Sgt. Stacy L. Pearsall, USAF



Fireworks light up the Washington, D.C., skyline on July 4. — U.S. Army Photo



SPC Russell Coffey of 3rd Bn., 320th Field Artillery Regt., 101st Abn. Div., interacts with children during a patrol in a small village outside of Tikrit, Iraq. — SPC Joshua R. Ford



The American flag hangs as a memorial during the 2nd annual Freedom Walk at the Pentagon as lights illuminate the spot where American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon Sept. 11, 2001. — PH1 Chad J. McNeeley, USN



SPC Jeffery Moore of Co. B, 2nd Bn., 6th Inf. Regt., exits a Bradley fighting vehicle on Camp Ar Ramadi, Iraq, following a raid in the Tameem district of Ramadi. — Tech Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF



SGT John Christoffersen and SPC Jason Dickerson head back to base in a Bradley fighting vehicle following a raid in the Tameem district of Ramadi, Iraq. — Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF



— Paul H. Crank



Members of the 82nd Airborne Div. from Fort Bragg, N.C., performs a mass jump during the 2006 Joint Service Open House. — SSG Jason W. Edwards



Entertainers practice routines for the annual U.S. Army Soldier Show, which runs a six-month tour of Army installations. — Tim Hipps



SFC John Sheaffer (left) and SPC Mikhail Venikov, both from the 75th Ranger Regt., cross the finish line of the 2006 Best Ranger Competition. — David Dismukes



Soldiers of Co. B, 2nd Bn., 6th Inf. Regt., prepare to conduct an early morning raid in search of weapons caches in Ramadi. — Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF



A Soldier from the 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team is decontaminated by fellow Soldiers during Exercise Vigilant Guard. — SPC Chris Gardner



A search for weapons caches in Ramadi, Iraq, puts these 1st Armored Division Soldiers on cautious alert. — Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Lock, USAF



President George W. Bush speaks before a crowd of more than 1,000 Soldiers, Airmen and military family members during a visit to Fort Bragg. — SSG Michael J. Carden



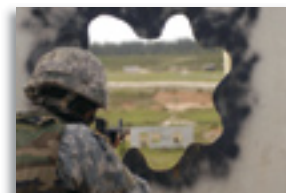
Soldiers begin a 4-mile D-Day commemorative run around Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. — PH2 Roger S. Duncan, USN



Soldiers, emergency responders and volunteers help set up the site for Freedom Walk, a 9/11 commemoration event at Fort Stewart, Ga. — Pat Young



Reserve Soldiers from around the country await re-enlistment at the U.S. Capitol. — COL Randy Pullen



A Soldier fires his weapon during training on the convoy live-fire course at Fort Jackson, S.C. — Senior Airman Desiree N. Palacio, USAF



Family and friends of Soldiers returning from Iraq wait to greet their loved ones at Pope Air Force Base, N.C. — Tech. Sgt. Brian E. Christensen, USAF



# Soldiers

The Official  
U.S. Army Magazine

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE ARMY LEADERSHIP

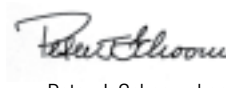
Throughout this holiday season, and as we mark each of the days in the coming year, we should also celebrate the spirit and the strength of the American Soldier. For more than 231 years, this spirit has led America's men and women to courageously answer the call to duty. This strength has helped preserve liberty throughout the world.


As the words and images included in this calendar make clear, this is an extraordinary time to be a Soldier. In 2006, **Soldiers** were deployed in 120 countries around the world. Decisively engaged in a war on terror, we are transforming to defend freedom today, while preparing the Army for future challenges.

Soldiers remain the centerpiece of our Army. Thank you for your service and your sacrifice for our great Nation. May God bless you, your families, our Army, and the United States of America.

Army Strong!

  
Kenneth O. Preston  
Sergeant Major of the Army

  
Peter J. Schoomaker  
General, U.S. Army  
Chief of Staff

  
Francis J. Harvey  
Secretary of the Army

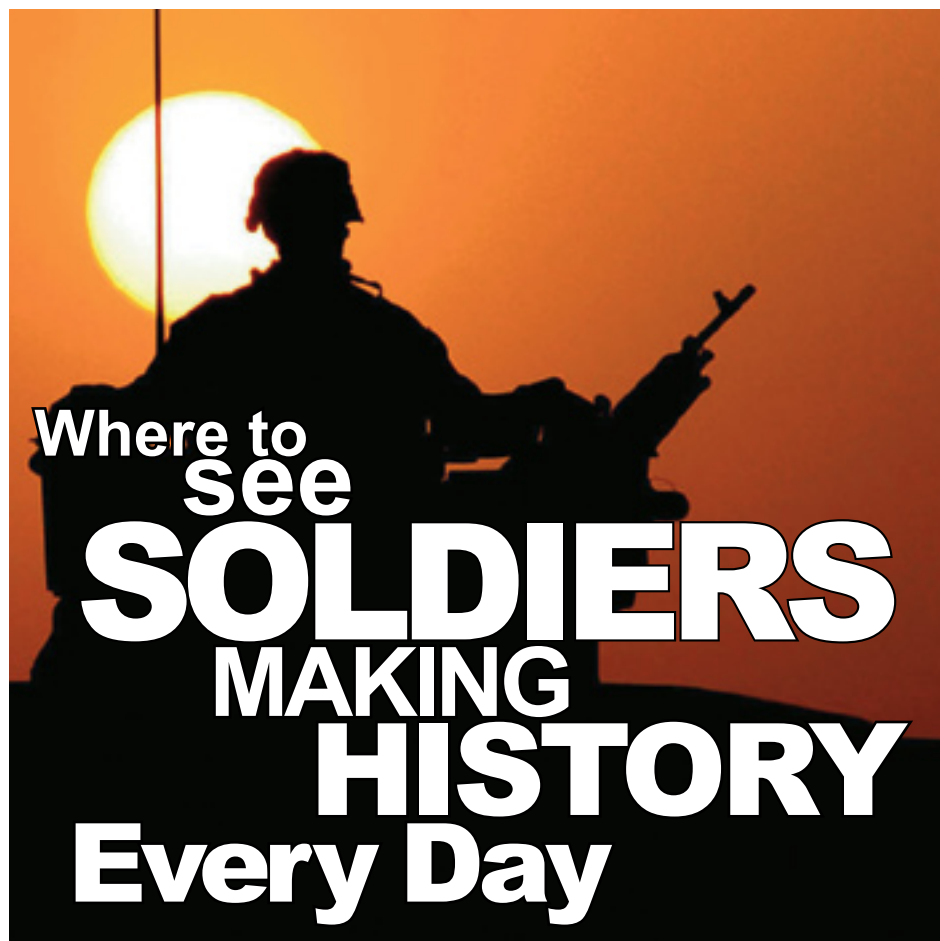


U.S. ARMY®

# CALL TO DUTY

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## BOOTS ON THE GROUND



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**THEN THERE'S  
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